

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 6 and 7 have been amended. Claims 11-29 have been previously withdrawn from consideration. Thus, claims 1-10 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

Informal Matters

In the Office Action mailed September 12, 2007, the drawings were objected to for informalities. The drawings have been amended responsive to the objections. If any additional amendment is necessary to overcome the objections, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Preiss et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,757,763 (hereinafter, "Preiss"). It is noted that claim 1 has been amended. To the extent that the rejection remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicant hereby traverses the rejection, as follows.

With regard to the Response to the Arguments on page 2, paragraph 2, of the outstanding Office Action, the Applicant agrees that TXFIFO of Preiss is not a register that holds control information but a memory that holds information (communication data) to be transferred to a host CPU 103. The Applicant points out that only TXFIFO is a memory that is accessible from the CPU 103, but TXFIFO does not store communication control information.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the source pointer and destination pointer are analogous to the claimed control information. However, the source pointer and destination pointer cited by the Examiner are information used for informing EPEC, which is a DMA controller, of a transmission source and a transmission destination (see *Preiss*, col. 3, lines 19-30). The source pointer and the destination pointer are given to EPEC as a matter of course. *Preiss* is silent regarding the other control information.

In independent claims 1, 6 and 7 of the present application, communication control information that should be supplied to a second device or a transmission destination CPU is sent via a register that is different from a buffer, which corresponds to TXFIFO of *Preiss*, by which communication data is sent. More specifically, only control information relating to data processing is sent via the register and only communication data is sent via the buffer in the invention as claimed. Accordingly, if there is no control information to be transferred, nothing is written in the register and only data is sent via the buffer.

Preiss does not disclose or suggest a register which is used only for transferring control information according to necessity, as recited in the claimed invention.

For at least this reason, the Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 6 and 7 are allowable over *Preiss*. As claims 1 and 7 are allowable, the Applicant submits that claims 2-5 and 8-10, which depend from allowable claims 1 and 7, are likewise allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1 and 7.

Conclusion

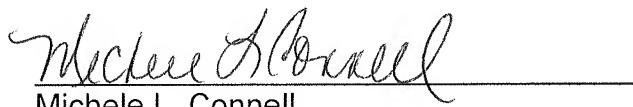
For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 referencing client matter number 107337-00106.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
Replacement Sheets